

## Message Text

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ACTION AID-59

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3980

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, VATO

SUBJ: REQUEST FOR DISASTER RELIEF ORGANIZATION INFORMATION

REF: A. STATE 22053; B. C-M(58)102 (1971 EDITION); C. PO/74/7

SUMMARY: AID/FDRC REQUEST REF A) FOR DISASTER RELIEF ORGANIZATION INFORMATION PASSED TO DELEGATIONS. MISSION ALSO RECEIVED PO/74/7 (REF C) (BEING POUCHED TO EUR/RPM AND AID/FDRC) ENTITLED "PEACETIME DISASTER RELIEF". THIS IS A PROPOSAL GIVEN TO SYG BY PRIVATE PERSONS FOR THE FORMATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL DISASTER RELIEF FORCE. SYG PROPOSES TO SEND PAPER TO NAC SOME TIME IN FEBRUARY. END SUMMARY.

1. COMMENTS OF REF A (PARAS 1-4) HAVE BEEN FORWARDED BY LETTER OF AMBASSADOR RUMSFELD TO SYG LUNS.

2. AS STATED IN THE U.S. FOLLOW-UP REPORT ON THE CCMS PILOT STUDY ON DISASTER ASSISTANCE (AC/274-D/35 DATED OCTOBER 19, 1973), NATO HQS STILL REMAINS READY TO EXECUTE THE FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OUTLINED IN REF B. WHICH PROVIDES SPECIFICALLY FOR THE USE OF THE NATO COMMUNICATIONS NET TO EXCHANGE DISASTER RELIEF INFO AMONG THE ALLIES ALONG THE LINES ENVISAGED IN AID/EDRC REQUEST

3. COINCIDENTALLY, WITH RECEIPT OF THAT REQUEST, SYG DISTRIBUTED REF C OF 4 FEB ENTITLED "PEACETIME DISASTER RELIEF" WHICH TRANSMITS A PAPER ENTITLED "INTERNATIONAL DISASTER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REFLIEF FORCE" (IDRF). PAPER WAS GIVEN TO SYG AS RESULT OF A VISIT BY A MR. HANNING OF THE BOARD FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY (A NON-GOVERNMENTAL BODY IN THE UK) AND BRIGADIER BLACKMAN, FORMERLY OXFAM'S DISASTER OPERATIONS

OFFICER. SYG PROPOSES TO PLACE PO ON AN AGENDA FOR THE COUNCIL IN FEBRUARY AS A BASIS OF A GENERAL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS, FURTHER STATING "IF THE COUNCIL SHARES MY FEELINGS WE MIGHT COMMISSION A MORE DETAILED STUDY AND CONSIDER THE MECHANISM FOR CARRYING THIS OUT".

4. USNATO NOTES THAT IDRF PROPOSAL WAS AN ELEMENT IN SUGGESTIONS MADE IN 1953 FOR POSSIBLE ACTIONS NATO COUNTRIES COULD TAKE IN THE EVENT OF DISASTER. C-M(53)125 SUGGESTED THAT "IMMEDIATELY THE SECRETARY GENERAL HEARS OF A MAJOR DISASTER IN ANY NATO COUNTRY HE SHOULD, AT HIS DISCRETION, SUMMON AN EMERGENCY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL. AT THIS MEETING THE COUNCIL MIGHT: (A) RECOMMEND THAT THE NATIONAL FORCES ALLOCATED TO NATO IN THE AREA OF THE DISASTER SHOULD IMMEDIATELY LEND ALL POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE TO THE AUTHORITIES CONCERNED ON THE SPOT. ..." OVER THE YEARS THE DOCUMENTS PUBLISHED ON THIS SUBJECT SAW A DE-EMPHASIS OF A POSSIBLE ROLE IN DISASTER RELIEF FOR NATO FORCES. THE LATEST NATO DOCUMENT, REF B, DOES NOT CONTAIN ANY SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO THE USE OF NATO MILITARY FORCES IN DISASTER RELIEF.

5. IF DEPARTMENT AGREES, WHEN PO/74/7 IS SUBMITTED TO THE COUNCIL, USNATO WILL NOTE THAT WHILE PROPOSAL IS MOST COMMENDABLE, IT IS CONSIDERED HIGHLY IMPRACTICAL AND SHOULD NOT BE ENTERTAINED ANY FURTHER IN NATO. FURTHER, SPONSORS OF THE PROPOSAL SHOULD SUBMIT THEIR SUGGESTIONS TO THE APPROPRIATE UN FORUM.'

6. FYI - ON NOVEMBER 5, 1973, USNATO POUCHED TO EUR/ RPM COPY OF NATO HQS' INTERNAL OPERATING PROCEDURES ISSUED UNDER COVER LETTER MD(73)137 (STANDING INSTRUCTIONS FOR NATO SITCEN) WHICH ENCLOSED TWO ANNEXES CONSISTING OF THE IST OF NATIONAL CENTRAL COORDINATING AGENCIES AND STANDING OPERATING PROCEDURES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF DISASTER ASSISTANCE NATO OPERATIONS IMPLEMENTED BY CIVIL EMERGENCY PLANNING DIRECTORATE STAFF.  
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RUMSFELD

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## Message Attributes

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